

## **MITIGATION OR ACTION PLAN**

### **Camas Creek Zone**

### **Kilgore South Unit**

The Kilgore South Unit is the southern part or lower reaches of Camas Creek. It begins south of the County Road A2 going to Island Park. This unit is 108,800 acres in size with 50,080 acres being in private land ownership. The main activity in this unit is ranching with a very small amount of agricultural lands south of Kilgore and south of Dubois. The summer population for this unit is estimated at 100 people at the peak time. The vegetation is wet meadows south of Kilgore to sagebrush/grasslands on the rest of the unit. In the past there have been 7 fires in this unit. Five of the fires were lightning caused 2 were man caused. The Fire Risk Rating for this unit is 26, moderate.

#### **Mitigation Plan:**

1. Implement a fire prevention and education program that contacts businesses, residents and rural homeowners. This program would provide for fire risk evaluation of residences or businesses and provide a way to protect property for wildland fire. There is material now available for property owners to review and develop a safe zone around residences and other valued property. There are also other programs available for youth groups to visit areas and help them evaluate their property and provide suggestions on how to create safe zones around their homes and other structures. Materials are currently available from the Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service. These materials could be provided in the summer of 2003. The youth fire risk evaluation program would be grant sponsored and could be requested for 2004.
2. Develop a county map of roads with names, numbers and signs so homes or businesses could be located for all emergencies including fires. Signs would be placed on the ground to guide emergency vehicles. A professional map service would be obtained to develop the map. After the map was developed, signs would be made and the signs would be installed on the ground. Contract for the map would be issued in 2003. The sign construction and ground installation would be done in 2004.
3. The City/County Volunteer Fire Department needs more volunteers to make the Department most effective. Giving proper training and compensation for training and for fire suppression may help encourage volunteers. The Spanish population has continued to grow in Dubois and many families own homes. Encouragement to all who live in the City to support the volunteers should be considered. This could begin immediately in 2003.
4. Future County development is done in a manner that protects homes from the threat of wildland fire. County Planning and Zoning should consider adopting the 30-foot set back clause for new homes being built and the wildland fire code for new construction. This would begin in 2003.
5. Burning permits have been available in Clark County for many years. The Dubois Ranger District has been issuing the permits for the State of Idaho. With the Sheriff's Office being designated as the Information Center, it would be the Sheriff's Office that would issue burning permits from May 10 through October. Burning permits have been available in Clark County for many years. The 20.

The Sheriff's Office would then notify the suppression forces stationed in Clark County of the burning permit issuance and its location. This would also include notifying the East Idaho Fire Dispatch located in Idaho Falls. This process would begin with the burning season on May 10, 2003. A handout would be made up by the County to pass out to all the homeowners and landowners in the County to remind them to obtain a burning permit. This handout will be prepared by the Wildland Fire Committee and reviewed and approved by the County Commissioners and sent out in May 2003.

6. With over 10,000 acres of Conservation Reserve Program (CPR) ground in Clark County, this type of fuel needs treatment to isolate it from other fuels in the same area. The CRP would provide the ignition source for the rest of the surrounding area. In the Camas Creek drainage, there are only 18.5 acres of CRP land. This small amount of CRP land is surrounded by meadows or farm land, the threat to other land is reduced but should be considered with the rest of the CRP land in Clark County.
7. Develop a County Evacuation Plan. Clark County Emergency Services will work with all involved agencies to develop an Evacuation Plan. This will begin in 2003.
8. Providing the appropriate fire service resources to maintain an effective emergency response system to wildland fires will depend on the Federal Agencies and their fire budget for the coming year. Both Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service provide initial attack units at Dubois, with helicopter and additional forces nearby with present funding. The City/County Volunteer Fire Department is often the first to arrive on a wildland fire and need a brush truck similar to the engines the Forest Service uses. This type of fire engine would be much more efficient than rolling the larger fire trucks to wildland fires. Forest Service has one of these engines available for this coming season and would make it available to Clark County. Grants are available to transfer this type of brush truck and should be done the spring of 2003.
9. Explore the potential of making dead timber available as firewood for the general public in Federal fuel reduction programs. As a fuel reduction measure, support the Caribou-Targhee N.F. in making dead timber along forest roads available for firewood. This should begin in 2003.
10. Encourage hazard fuel treatment on Federal, State, and private land adjacent to moderate and high-risk areas. The hazard fuel reduction treatments on Federal, State, and private lands will be prioritized each year. Since this priority list will have new projects added, they will be evaluated and prioritized each year.  
(Appendix e)
11. Wildland conditions are continually changing in the County and the wildland committee should meet quarterly beginning October 2003 to review the plan and update where needed.





**South Kilgore  
view is north**



## **MITIGATION OR ACTION PLAN**

### **Camas Creek Zone** **Kilgore Northwest Unit**

Kilgore Northwest Unit is west of Kilgore and North of Idmon and includes the West Camas drainage and upper part of the East Camas drainage. The unit is in the Centennial Mountain Range and is mostly a forested unit. The forest is mainly Douglas fir with pockets of lodgepole pine with the higher elevations on Big and Little Table Mountains having large stands of whitebark pine. The whitebark pine is being attack by the White Pine Blister Rust and has left many of the stands dead and providing an ignition source for lightening strikes. Bark beetles have also been attacking many mature Douglas fir trees and have killed many throughout the forest and eventually will create a fire hazard. The population in this unit is estimated to be 300 people during the summer peak times. The Steel Creek Reservation Area in West Camas is very popular for group outings. This unit is 57,600 acres in size and 7,680 acres of the total acres are privately owned lands. The main activities in this unit are ranching and recreation. The past fires were a total of 12 and 8 were lightning caused with 4 being man caused. The Fire Risk Rating for this unit is 35, high risk.

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3. The City/County Volunteer Fire Department needs more volunteers to make the Department most effective. Giving proper training and compensation for training and for fire suppression may help encourage volunteers. The Spanish population has continued to grow in Dubois and many families own homes. Encouragement to all who live in the City to support the volunteers should be considered. This could begin immediately in 2003.
4. Future County development is done in a manner that protects homes from the threat of wildland fire. County Planning and Zoning should consider adopting the

30-foot set back clause for new homes being built and the wildland fire code for new construction. This would begin in 2003.

5. Burning permits have been available in Clark County for many years. The Dubois Ranger District has been issuing the permits for the State of Idaho. With the Sheriff's Office being designated as the Information Center, it would be the Sheriff's Office that would issue burning permits from May 10 through October. Burning permits have been available in Clark County for many years. The 20. The Sheriff's Office would then notify the suppression forces stationed in Clark County of the burning permit issuance and its location. This would also include notifying the East Idaho Fire Dispatch located in Idaho Falls. This process would begin with the burning season on May 10, 2003. A handout would be made up by the County to pass out to all the homeowners and landowners in the County to remind them to obtain a burning permit. This handout will be prepared by the Wildland Fire Committee and reviewed and approved by the County Commissioners and sent out in May 2003.
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Hagenbarth Cabins  
View is west



2002/10/31

Hagenbarth North Cabin  
view west



2002/10/31







## **MITIGATION OR ACTION PLAN**

### **Camas Creek Zone** **Kilgore Northeast Unit**

The Kilgore Northeast Unit is located north and west of the Kilgore Store. This includes the lower part of East Camas Creek and from Ching Creek to Keg Creek and Willow Creek on the east Clark County boundary line. The northern part of this unit is in the Centennial Mountain Range and is mostly a forested unit. The lower part of the unit is meadows and sagebrush/grassland. The Sheridan Ranch and Reservoir are in this unit. The forested unit is mainly Douglas fir with mixed patches of lodgepole pine and whitebark pine at higher elevations. Many of the mature Douglas fir are being attack by bark beetles and the whitebark pines are being attack by the White Pine Blister Rust. Many of these trees are dying due to the attacks and will pose a fire hazard in the future. The population is estimated to be 150 people during summer peaks. The unit is 95,360 acres in size and there are 26,240 acres of the total in privately owned lands. The Kilgore Store in the main gathering place for the Camas Drainage and is important in providing information for this area. All of Clark County has potential for second home development, but the Camas Creek seems most likely to be the first to become developed. The main activities in this unit are ranching and recreation. There have been a total of 16 fires in this unit. Twelve were lightning caused and 4 man caused. The Fire Risk Rating is 40, high risk

#### **Mitigation Plan:**

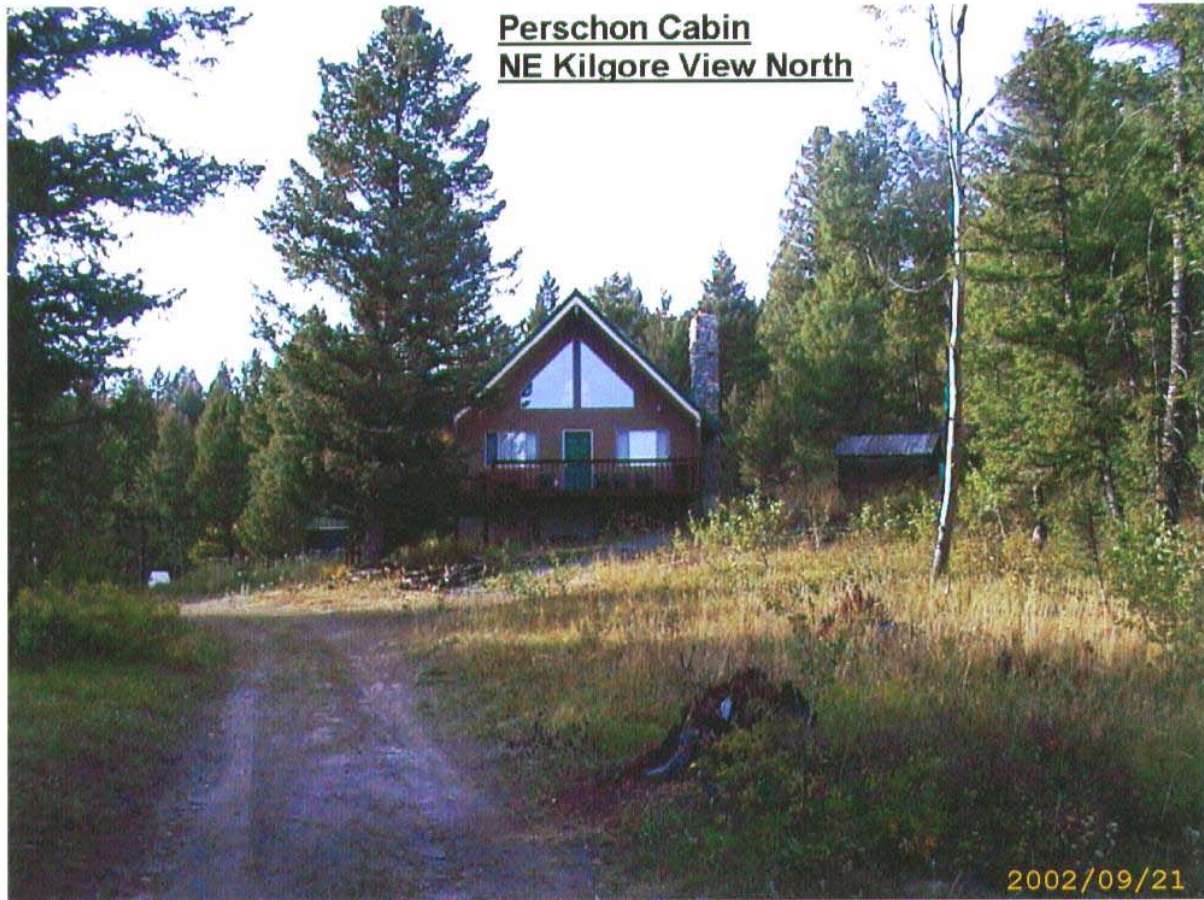
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10. Wildland conditions are continually changing in the County and the wildland committee should meet quarterly beginning October 2003 to review the plan and update where needed.
11. Kilgore Northeast and Northwest both have high fire risk ratings. During peak fire seasons it would be best to station a wildland fire truck in this area. If federal agencies have adequate funding it is possible that one of the BLM or Forest Service Units could be stationed at Kilgore during peak fire periods. If the Kilgore area had volunteers trained in wildland fire suppression a county fire truck could be stationed at Kilgore. If funding and fire conditions warrant federal

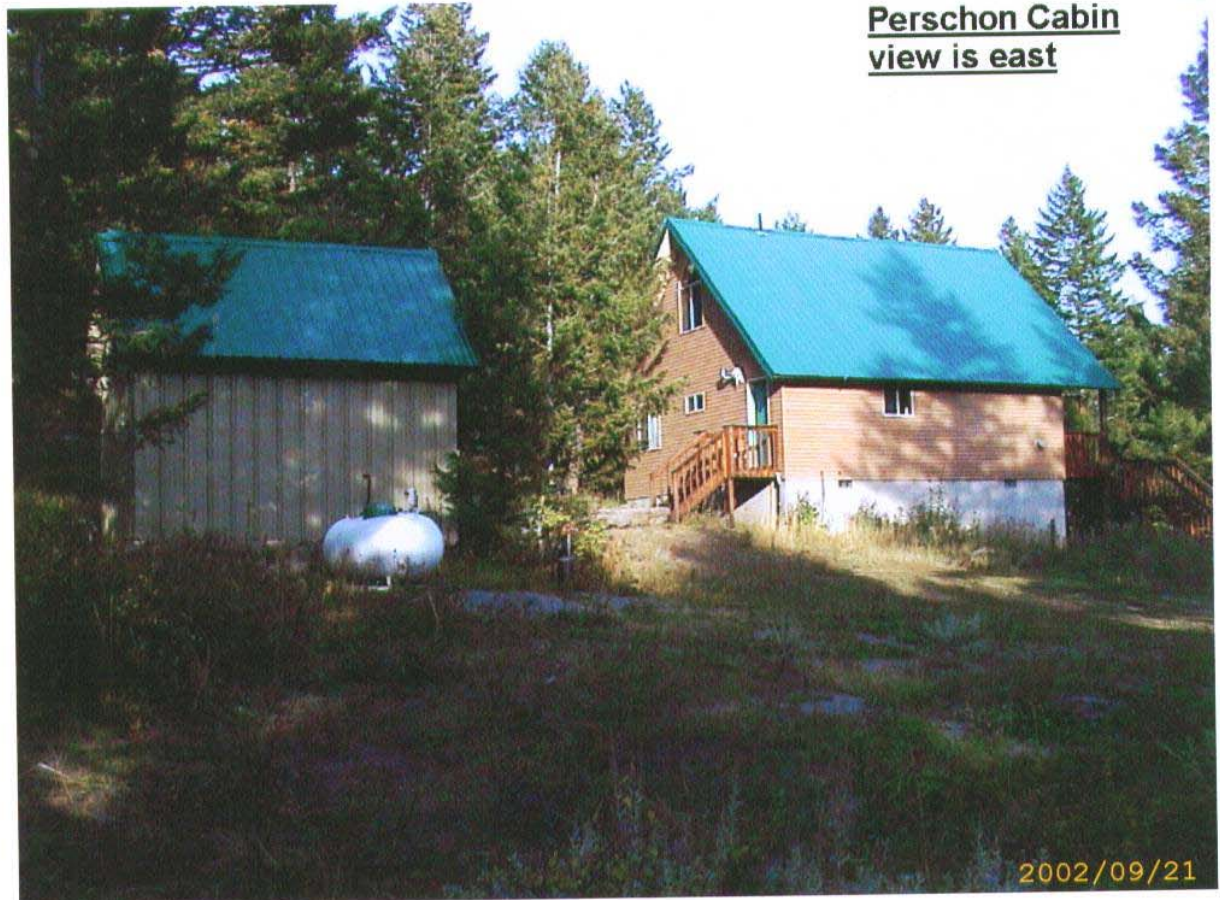


agencies could begin stationing a unit in Kilgore in 2003. The volunteer training could begin in 2004 and searching for a fire truck would begin when enough volunteers were located.

Perschon Cabin  
NE Kilgore View North



Perschon Cabin  
view is east

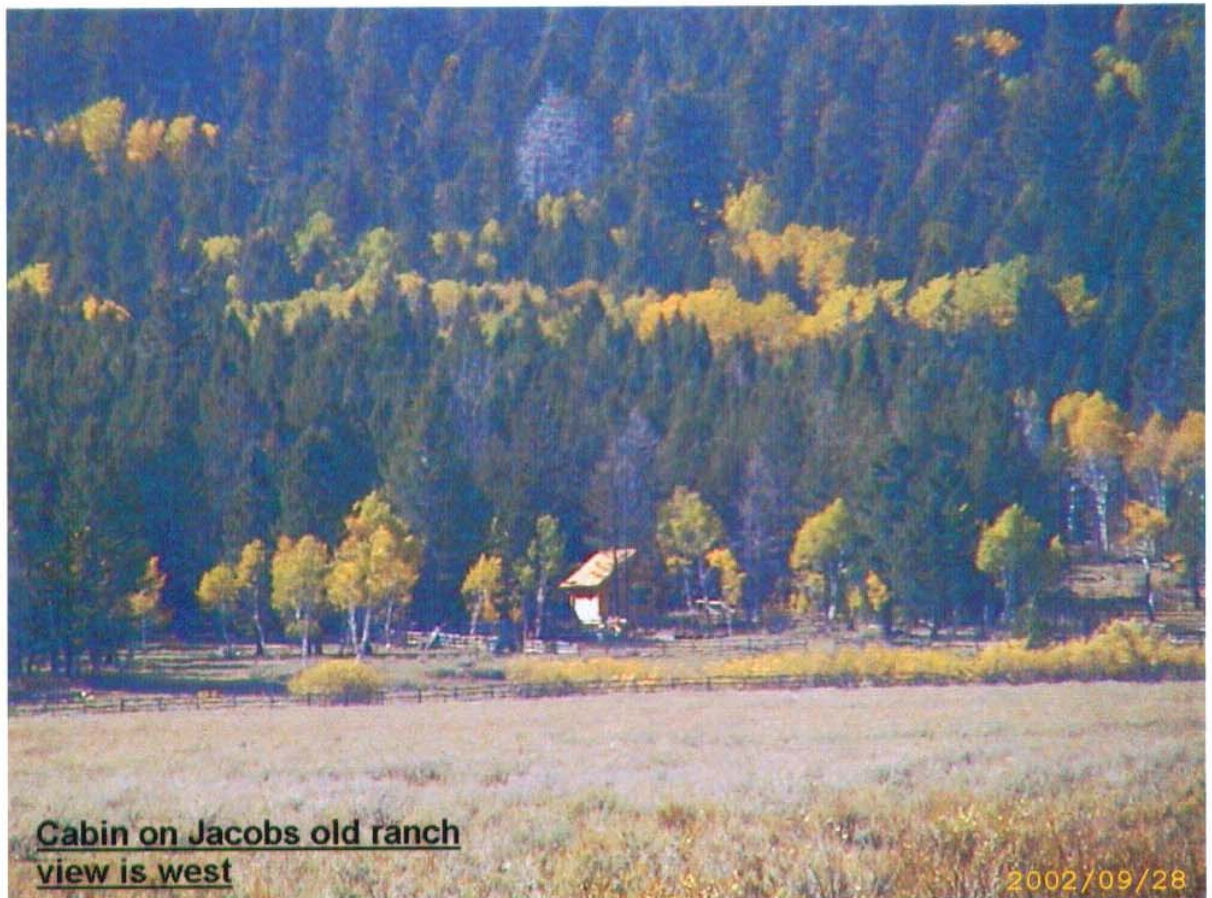






Harts Cabin view is northwest

2002/09/28



Cabin on Jacobs old ranch  
view is west

2002/09/28